

VARNVILLE ELEMENTARY

395 EAST PINE ST.
VARNVILLE, S.C. 29944

GRADES PK-4 Elementary School

ENROLLMENT 392 Students

PRINCIPAL SALLY HIERS 803-943-2376

SUPERINTENDENT Dr. Terry Pruitt 803-943-4576

BOARD CHAIR Mr. Eugene Jenkins, Jr. 803-943-0547

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2003

ABSOLUTE RATING:

GOOD

Absolute Ratings of Elementary Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
3	42	55	2	0

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

BELOW AVERAGE

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

YES

This school met 17 out of 17 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

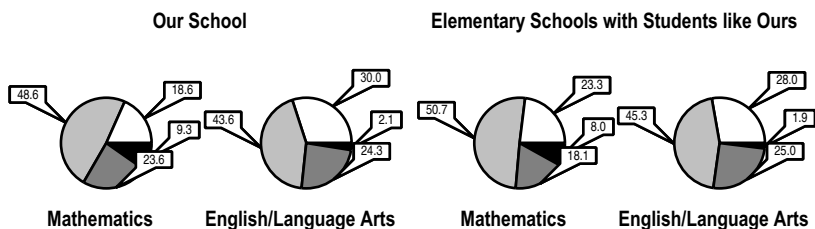
FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:




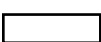
WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

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PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Average	Average	N/A
2002	Average	Below Average	N/A
2003	Good	Below Average	Yes
2004			

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS**Definition of Critical Terms**

	Advanced	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	Proficient	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	Basic	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	Below Basic	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

NOTE: Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students	Parents
Number of surveys returned	29	68	53
Percent satisfied with learning environment	82.1%	89.7%	84.9%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	86.2%	89.7%	75.5%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	89.7%	91.2%	88.7%

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced	State Objective
English/Language Arts								
All students	151	100.0	30.0	43.6	24.3	2.1	26.4	17.6
Gender								
Male	74	100.0	37.7	39.1	21.7	1.4	23.2	17.6
Female	77	100.0	22.5	47.9	26.8	2.8	29.6	17.6
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	66	100.0	22.6	41.9	30.6	4.8	35.5	17.6
African-American	83	100.0	35.9	44.9	19.2	N/A	19.2	17.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Hispanic	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Disability Status								
Not disabled	134	100.0	25.4	47.5	24.6	2.5	27.0	17.6
Disabled	17	100.0	61.1	16.7	22.2	N/A	22.2	17.6
Migrant Status								
Migrant	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Non-migrant	151	100.0	30.0	43.6	24.3	2.1	26.4	17.6
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.6
Non-limited English proficient	151	100.0	30.0	43.6	24.3	2.1	26.4	17.6
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	92	100.0	39.8	36.1	21.7	2.4	24.1	17.6
Full-pay meals	59	100.0	15.8	54.4	28.1	1.8	29.8	17.6

Mathematics								
All students	151	100.0	18.6	48.6	23.6	9.3	32.9	15.5
Gender								
Male	74	100.0	21.7	46.4	18.8	13.0	31.9	15.5
Female	77	100.0	15.5	50.7	28.2	5.6	33.8	15.5
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	66	100.0	12.9	43.5	27.4	16.1	43.5	15.5
African-American	83	100.0	23.1	52.6	20.5	3.8	24.4	15.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Hispanic	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Disability Status								
Not disabled	134	100.0	15.6	49.2	25.4	9.8	35.2	15.5
Disabled	17	100.0	38.9	44.4	11.1	5.6	16.7	15.5
Migrant Status								
Migrant	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Non-migrant	151	100.0	18.6	48.6	23.6	9.3	32.9	15.5
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	N/A	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.5
Non-limited English proficient	151	100.0	18.6	48.6	23.6	9.3	32.9	15.5
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	92	100.0	24.1	51.8	21.7	2.4	24.1	15.5
Full-pay meals	59	100.0	10.5	43.9	26.3	19.3	45.6	15.5

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample
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PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL

		Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced
English/Language Arts								
2002	Grade 3	76	N/A	27.6	43.4	28.9	N/A	28.9
	Grade 4	91	N/A	25.6	48.9	23.3	2.2	25.6
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2003	Grade 3	81	100.0	36.0	37.3	24.0	2.7	26.7
	Grade 4	70	100.0	23.1	50.8	24.6	1.5	26.2
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mathematics								
2002	Grade 3	76	N/A	35.5	40.8	14.5	9.2	23.7
	Grade 4	91	N/A	33.3	48.9	8.9	8.9	17.8
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2003	Grade 3	81	100.0	25.3	46.7	16.0	12.0	28.0
	Grade 4	70	100.0	10.8	50.8	32.3	6.2	38.5
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n= 392)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Retention rate	2.6%	Down from 4.3%	2.6%	2.4%
Attendance rate	96.2%	Up from 95.8%	95.6%	95.9%
Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eligible for gifted and talented	0.0%	Down from 6.2%	11.8%	13.2%
On academic plans	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
On academic probation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With disabilities other than speech	2.6%	Down from 4.5%	8.1%	8.0%
Older than usual for grade	0.8%	Down from 2.2%	1.2%	1.1%
Suspended or expelled	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%

Teachers (n= 25)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	48.0%	Up from 42.9%	47.0%	50.0%
Continuing contract teachers	100.0%	Up from 92.9%	85.6%	85.3%
Highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	86.9%	Down from 90.6%	86.7%	86.2%
Teacher attendance rate	96.7%	Up from 94.4%	95.2%	95.3%
Average teacher salary	\$40,117	Up 6.8%	\$39,408	\$39,909
Prof. development days/teacher	15.8 days	Up from 7.1 days	11.8 days	11.4 days

School				
Principal's years at school	10.0	Up from 9.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio	22.8 to 1	Up from 17.8 to 1	18.9 to 1	18.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	90.9%	Up from 89.4%	89.3%	89.7%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,473	Up 2.9%	\$5,792	\$5,892
Percent spent on teacher salaries*	68.1%	Up from 67.9%	66.6%	66.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good	Good
Parents attending conferences	99.0%	Up from 98.4%	99.0%	99.0%
SACS accreditation	no	N/A	yes	yes

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	N/A	N/A
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data							
N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

This has been a successful year for Varnville Elementary School. We have begun to implement our SC Reads and Tutorial Assistance Grants. The SC Reads Grant enabled us to start a Family Literacy Center and Adult Education Program, have on-going study groups, and extensive professional development for early childhood educators. TAS Grant funding allowed us to start after-school programs for grades K-3. SCE&G funded the 4th grade after-school program.

Our students were successful academically as well as artistically. Among our many accomplishments were the following: winners in art, poetry, and essay contests; students published in The State newspaper; students whose poetry won on the state and Southeast Regional levels; 100% of our students received the Governor's Reading Honor Roll award; we read more than 8,000 books for Scholastic Reading Counts; and we adopted a group of 500 soldiers who had been sent to Iraq and each student in our school wrote a letter to one of them.

Our kindergarten teachers presented at the annual High/Scope Conference, and we hosted and attended the four week High/Scope Lead Teacher Training. We are the only school in SC whose entire kindergarten staff is trained in High/Scope.

We have dedicated parents and a strong community volunteer program. We had 100% participation for our Academic Plans. Parents and members of the community participated in our volunteer "Read With Me" program. We offered Parent Workshops to familiarize the parents with the state standards on which our PACT test is based. We also hosted a Family Math and Science Night.

Our supportive PTO and School Improvement Council are involved in all aspects of our school.

On a less positive note, Varnville Elementary has suffered this year because of budget cuts. We lost four classroom positions. Our student/teacher ratio increased and made teaching and learning difficult. Supplies and materials were not available because of budget cuts. Again, teaching and learning suffered. Our students and teachers were still held accountable for PACT test scores yet we did not receive the appropriate funding from the Legislature to do an excellent job. Until appropriate funding is restored, our children will suffer.

Due to several long-term illnesses, our average teacher attendance was not what we desired. Grade level assistants were utilized in the classrooms because of their familiarity with the grade level standards and the students. The teachers' plans were adhered to in order to keep the students on track. Several of our teachers were also out to receive professional training in order to help our students even more.

Our school motto is "We Do Our Best at VES, Read and Succeed." Our school is a great place to learn, to grow, to work, and to play.

Sally W. Hiers, Principal, Varnville Elementary School

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specified that the statewide target is met for all students and for each subgroup of students: racial/ethnic, economic, disability, limited English proficiency and migrant status.